

GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED WITH SINKING OF WM. P. FRYE

Explanation of Incident by Commander of German Cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich Does Not Satisfy President Wilson

ADMINISTRATION WANTS MORE COMPLETE REPORT

Teuton Warship That Sent Windjammer To Bottom Goes Into Drydock for Repairs Which May Require Week To Complete

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—In explanation under oath of the sinking of the American sailing vessel Wm. P. Frye, bound for British ports with a cargo of grain, by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, her commander, from whom a statement was categorically required by the American government, has sent word that he supposed the Wm. P. Frye's cargo to have been contraband.

Better Excuse Required

Something fuller will be needed before President Wilson is satisfied. Foodstuffs consigned to civilian individuals or firms were not considered contraband of war and at the time the Prinz Eitel Friedrich sank the Wm. P. Frye, after dumping overboard her cargo, England had not announced her intention to raise all commerce closed for German ports, and Germany had not retaliated with her declaration of undeclared warfare on British merchant commerce. In short, the administration finds it difficult to understand what could have led the German commander to suppose that at that time grain was contraband of war.

Another Issue Arises

Moreover, even had such been the case, although the destruction of the cargo might then be regarded as self-explanatory, the sinking of the ship herself would remain unaccounted for. International law supplies few precedents for sending neutral ships to the bottom, and the belief is general in official circles that a demand for damages and an explanation from Germany will lie. Nothing yet has appeared to weaken the assumption made on the face of the facts as known thus far that America's case is of the best.

Cruiser Badly Disabled

In the meantime the Prinz Eitel Friedrich is in drydock and, after a preliminary examination, her commander said last night that she could be made ready for sea in a week.

Under the neutrality regulations in force, belligerent men-of-war which make neutral ports are allowed twenty-four hours in which to take on supplies and coal sufficient for a voyage to the nearest home port, or in case the vessel has been damaged, sufficient time in which to effect reasonable repairs with the greatest possible dispatch.

Cruiser May Intern

If the precedents set by the internment of the German cruisers Geier at Honolulu and Cormoran at Guam are followed, as seems highly probable, the Prinz Eitel Friedrich will be examined by American naval officers, who will judge the repairs necessary and estimate the time they ought to take, after which the cruiser will be given a definite period within which either to intern for the duration of the war or put to sea and take her chances with the British warship which undoubtedly will be waiting for her outside the three-mile limit.

Officers from the Prinz Eitel Friedrich

So far the German officers have refused to surrender the ship's papers of the Wm. P. Frye, on the ground that they should be held for the view of a German prize court, but copies will be furnished if desired. Fifteen sacks of

(Continued on Page Four)

JAPAN MOBILIZES ARMY TO ENTER CHINA

Mikado May Descend Upon Peking and Enforce Demands

Sectional View of Chinese Capital of Peking, Which Japanese Threaten To Occupy



Sixty Thousand Men Are Under Arms and Navy Is Ready For Expedition

(Special Cable to Nippu Jiji.)

TOKIO, March 11.—With partial mobilization of the Japanese army and navy already begun, every indication today points to the possibility of a second Chino-Japan war in the immediate future.

The relations between the two nations, as they now stand, are admitted freely by those who are in close touch with the situation as being critically grave. The nations are on the verge of open hostilities, unless acceptance by China of every item of the demands made by Japan is forthcoming without any delay.

From the office of the general staff of the Japanese army, announcement was made today that the Tenth and Seventeenth army divisions, the mobilization having been already commenced, will be dispatched to China, the former to Tientsin, recently taken from the Germans, and the latter to Manchuria, while another army division, full war strength, will be sent to an unknown destination. These three divisions consist about 60,000 men, war strength, each division being commanded by a lieutenant general.

The sending of the three Japanese army divisions to the Chinese soil is taken for granted to mean that the Japanese general staff is preparing to hold sufficient men at the most convenient points to capture, at the first opportunity, the Chinese capital, Peking, which is regarded as practically defenseless against the Japanese invasion.

Contemporaneously with this activity in army circles, the Japanese navy is also showing its preparedness for an emergency. From various naval bases in Japan are coming reports of the mobilization of powerful fleets and the commanders of the warships are now awaiting the order from the Admiralty, prior to proceed to Chinese waters.

While Japan is rushing her preparations of warfare against the Chinese Republic, E. Heki, the special Japanese minister at Peking is pressing his claims on the Chinese government and demanding a speedy acceptance. Minister Heki had another conference today with Liu Cheng-hsiang, the Chinese foreign secretary, the result of which is yet to be known. The general belief here is that China will yield completely to each one of the demands from Tokio, thus averting the crisis.

Otherwise war will soon be declared on China by Japan.

JAPAN'S MILITARY ACTIVITY APPARENT

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

TOKIO, March 12.—Conspicuous naval and military activity throughout the empire has reached such proportions that it no longer can be concealed.

Although the government remains silent, the public is convinced that the cabinet has lost patience with China's procrastination over the demands for increased territorial and political rights which Japan made shortly after the capitulation of the German stronghold of Tsingtau.

Japan, it is the general belief here, has arrived at a point where she is determined to insist that her demands be seriously considered. China has been informed that negotiations can be no longer continued on the assumption that Japan is not prepared to press through her purposes. On the contrary, official notice has been served that further delay will be "dangerous."

The strength of this unqualified adjective is sufficient in the studied phraseology of diplomatic correspondence to hint at the most serious eventualities.

GREAT BRITAIN WILL PERMIT INVASION

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

LONDON, March 12.—Great interest has been aroused here by the ambiguous developments in the strained relations between Japan and China. In response to a question from the floor of the house of commons, the Rt. Honorable Sir Henry Primrose, under secretary for foreign affairs, replied that Great Britain had no objections to the expansion of Japanese interests in China, which in no way conflicted with British interests. Japan's ambitions, he was in a position to say, did not threaten the integrity of China, which, on the contrary, it was the purpose of the alliance between the British and Japanese empires to maintain.

THAW ASSUMES ALL BLAME FOR ESCAPE

Testifies That He Concocted Plot and Paid Guard Thompson Well for Complicity

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

NEW YORK, March 12.—Testifying in his own behalf today, Henry Kendall Thaw took upon himself all blame for his escape from the Matteawan state hospital for the criminal insane, where he had been confined since his conviction of the murder of Stanford White, the distinguished architect.

To Thompson, a guard who helped pave the way for his escape, he swore he paid \$6000, with a bonus of \$1000 after Thompson had fulfilled his bargain. Roger O'Keefe, a private detective for many years in the employ of the Thaw family, who also assisted in the break, was discharged for lack of evidence.

Not until Thaw had come to despair of attaining his freedom by legal process, he testified, did he consider the possibilities of a jail delivery, and even then he did not begin to lay his plans until he had been advised by counsel that there would be nothing illegal in an escape if it were accomplished without violence.

Testimony yesterday was confined strictly to the charge of conspiracy to effect an escape, on which Thaw is being tried. All issues that might develop from a new decision as to his sanity were barred by a ruling of the court.

CABINET OF PORTUGAL BRANDED AS ILLEGAL

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

PARIS, March 12.—Asserting that the present cabinet of the Portuguese government is "extra parliamentary" and is holding power without authority of constitutional law, Minister Jono Chagas, who took office some three months ago, yesterday tendered his resignation to President de Arrago, stating that he would rather be out of office than serve longer in what he regarded as a dictatorship. He denied that there is any truth in the report that a constitutional convention was held recently and the president of a northern republic elected. That report, he says, is a plain invention.

EXPLANATION ASKED BY GREAT BRITAIN

London Wants To Know Through Washington Why Mexicans Seized British Ship

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The British government has asked the American government to request from General Carranza, the Mexican "First Chief," an explanation for the seizure in Mexican waters of the British ship Wyvianbrook.

The United States has sent another formal note to General Carranza. It is understood this note emphasizes the importance of open communication between Mexico City and Vera Cruz.

Information that four Spaniards have been assassinated in Mexico City and that looting and the burning of residences are in progress, has been laid before Secretary of State Bryan by Senator Don Y Gayangos, the Spanish ambassador.

In putting before the state department this report of riotous conditions and the killing of his countrymen, the ambassador did not request that any specific action be taken.

President Wilson has received Carranza's note in reply to the United States' protest against the conditions in Mexico City under Obregon's usurpation. The situation is regarded as encouraging, the note indicating a desire to carry out the wishes of the United States.

PRESIDENT WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY CALLERS

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—An announcement was made at the White House yesterday that, because of the pressing character of the Mexican and other international questions, President Wilson will not receive any callers during the next three weeks.

EIGHTEEN PASSENGERS LOSE LIVES IN WRECK

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

MADRID, March 12.—Eighteen passengers were killed yesterday and many more injured in a wreck of the Vigo mail. While passing through a narrow defile in the mountain province

Greece Floats Immense Loan In Emergency

Terror Increases In Constantinople as Great Allied Fleet Keeps Battering at Dardanelles

Sofia Notifies Athens That Favorite Son of Sultan Has Been Assassinated

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

ATHENS, March 12.—In view of the extreme tension of the situation in Greece, significance attaches to a royal decree signed here yesterday, authorizing a government loan for purposes unspecified of \$8,000,000.

Another decree, adjourning parliament for a month was signed, and when the chamber reconvenes it is probable that it will be dissolved.

Terror in Constantinople

All advices from Constantinople bring word of increasing terror and indecision, as the great allied fleet keeps battering its way up the Straits of the Dardanelles.

The American ambassador to Turkey, Henry Morgenthau, notified his government yesterday from Constantinople that the British admiral in command of the Mediterranean fleet, not engaged at the Dardanelles, has given the Turkish garrison twenty-four hours in which either to surrender or submit to bombardment.

Sultan's Son Reported Dead

Sofia, through the Balkan News Agency, sends word that Burhan-Eddin, favorite son of the deposed Sultan Abdul Hamid, has been assassinated by his political enemies. He was found strangled to death in his bedroom.

FRANCE FORESTALLS SPREAD OF DISEASE

Wholesale Cremation Will Be Legalized To Guard Against Epidemic After War

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

PARIS, March 12.—Measures to be taken as a precaution against an epidemic of disease as an aftermath of the war are embodied in a bill introduced into the house of deputies yesterday, this bill legalizing the disposition of the dead in the war by cremation and not by quick burial in trench graves. The dangers to which the country is exposed by the further burial of large numbers of bodies in hastily dug trenches are outlined by the introduction of the measure.

The bill provides for the burning of the bodies of all the German dead found upon the battlefield, and in addition the unidentified dead of the French and their allies and of the bodies of all persons who may have died of contagious disease.

It is feared that the thawing of the ground in the spring and the ordinary spring rains and floods will expose thousands of the bodies buried during the winter, with the result that disease may become epidemic throughout the regions which have been fought over.

DISEASE PLAYS HAVOC

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

BERLIN, March 12.—Disease is playing havoc in Berlin, according to the reports brought here by Americans who have recently visited that section of the Balkans. Typhus and typhoid fever are epidemic, and a number of the American Red Cross workers have fallen victims.

Typhus, or spotted fever, is known to be caused by vermin, and no cure has as yet been found by medical science. To this disease already, two American physicians have succumbed, while nine out of the twelve American nurses with the Serbian Red Cross have been stricken with the disease.

of the Asturias, a landslide came crashing down on the train. Huge boulders, leaping down the hillside ahead of the slide, smashed the coaches to splinters and crushed the passengers to death.

BIG DISASTER TO SUBMARINE BLOCKADERS IS REPORTED

Twelve German Sea-Wasps Sent Out from Cuxhaven To Raid British Shipping Have Failed To Return To Their Base

EIGHT OF MISSING CRAFT ARE OF VERY LATEST TYPE

News Bureau In London Announces Series of Important Successes In Flanders, Although Teuton Resistance Is Unbroken

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

LONDON, March 12.—Twelve German submarines sent out from Cuxhaven to sink whatever British vessels they could find, whether warships, cargo carriers, or liners with passengers aboard, have failed to return to their base, says a special dispatch to the Express from its correspondent at The Hague, who lays his assertion upon what he asserts is a secret report from the German admiralty to Berlin.

May Abandon Blockade

Eight of these missing submarines, the correspondent says, were of very latest type, and their loss has so discouraged the Kaiser that he has called a naval council for today, over which he will preside, to discuss the advisability of abandoning the undersea campaign against British commerce.

The collier Beehoven, which a German official bulletin announced had been torpedoed and sunk while on her way to Gibraltar, with fuel for the Mediterranean fleet, is safe at Avonmouth, the British admiralty announces.

Successes In Flanders

In the western theater of war, the official news bureau announced today what is described as a series of important successes in Flanders, where the British expeditionary force has of late been heavily reinforced and is now taking the offensive. It was partly to thwart the transport of these troops across the channel that Germany announced her purpose to inaugurate after the eighteenth of February a naval campaign in which she would avail herself of "every means within her command" and promptly launched her submarine campaign.

According to the statement given out, a British attack along an extended front has resulted in the capture by storm of a mile and a half of German trenches, together with 1000 prisoners. Confirmation of this victory is said to be contained in a partial admission from Berlin.

Nevertheless, the German resistance is by no means broken. An official British "eye witness" at the front, reporting to the war department, describes the German troops as "intensely brave," and "convinced that thus far they have no reason to be discouraged."

King George signed today an order in council fixing the provisions of the Anglo-Franco retaliatory war on German trade, but its details have not yet been permitted to become public.

HOWARD NOW FULL ADMIRAL

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

SAN DIEGO, California, March 11.—Rear Admiral Thomas B. Howard, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, was elevated to the rank of admiral today, under the recent act of congress. He hoisted his new flag on the cruiser Colorado at eleven-thirty o'clock.